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NAFDAC Instant Noodles Regulations 2026

Comments are Welcomed from Stakeholders Within 60 Calendar Days (18th January 2027)

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Instant Noodles Regulations, 2026
Arrangement of Regulations

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National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (CAP N1 LFN 2004)

Instant Noodles Regulations, 2026

[] Commencement

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Governing Council of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control ("the Governing Council") by section 30 of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act, Cap.N1, LFN, 2004 and section 12 of the Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration, Etc.) Act, Cap. F33. LFN, 2004 and all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Governing Council, with the approval of the Minister, makes the following Regulations---

Part I
Objective, Application and Registration

1. **Objective**

   The objective of these Regulations is to provide framework for the regulation of instant noodles manufactured, exported, imported, advertised, sold, displayed for sale, distributed, or used in Nigeria.

2. **Application**

   (1) These Regulations shall apply to the requirements for fried and air-dried instant noodles which are manufactured, exported, advertised, sold, distributed or used in Nigeria.

   (2) These Regulations shall not apply to pasta.

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3. **Registration**

   Instant noodles manufactured, exported, advertised, sold, distributed or used in Nigeria shall be registered in accordance with the provisions of the Agency's NAFDAC Foods and Related Products Registration Regulations and other requirements as may be specified by the Agency.

Part II
Ingredients, Food Additive, Quality Requirements, Contaminant, Hygiene, Packaging and Labeling

4. **Ingredients**

   (1) The essential ingredients for instant noodles shall be cereal flour, other flours or starch, potable water, and iodized salt.

   (2) Optional ingredients shall include vitamins and minerals, spices, herbs, and food additives.

   (3) Instant noodles may contain food additives in a quantity within the limit stated in the Nigerian Industrial Standard (NIS).

5. **Quality requirements**

   (1) **General requirements**

   Instant Noodles shall: -

(a) be clean, safe, suitable and of good quality.
(b) have a characteristic colour, odour and taste.
(c) be free from
    (i) rodent contamination, dirt and other extraneous matter, living insects, dead insect, insect fragments, and foreign matter.
    (ii) abnormal flavours and rancid taste.

(2) **Specific requirements**
Instant Noodles shall comply with the specific requirements as stated in the First Schedule to these Regulations.

6. **Contaminants**
(1) The maximum level of metallic contaminants and mycotoxins in instant noodles shall not exceed the amount as specified in the Second Schedule to these Regulations.
(2) The maximum limit allowable for microbial contaminants shall not exceed the amount as specified in the Third Schedule to these Regulations.

7. **Hygiene**
Instant noodles shall be prepared and handled, free from foreign materials, microorganism, or other materials which may impact the integrity of the product in accordance with the provisions of the Agency's Food Hygiene Regulations.

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8. **Packaging**
(1) The instant noodles may be packed with noodle seasonings, or in the form of seasoned noodle.
(2) The noodle seasoning may be packed in separate pouches or sprayed on noodle offered for human consumption.
(3) Instant Noodles shall be packaged in suitable packaging materials which will ensure the hygienic, nutritional, technological, and organoleptic qualities of the product are preserved.
(4) the packaging materials, shall be made of substances which are safe and suitable for their intended use.
(5) the packaging materials shall not impart any toxic substance or undesirable odour or flavour to the product.

9. **Labelling**
(1) The labelling of instant noodles shall be in accordance with the Agency's Pre-Packaged Food (Labelling) Regulations and other requirements as may be specified by the Agency.
(2) Further to regulation 7(1) of this regulation, the name of instant noodles may be indicated as 'Fried Instant Noodles", Or "Non-fried Instant Noodles".

10. **Advertisement**
The advertisement of instant noodles shall be in accordance with the Agency's Food Products Advertisement Regulations, and other requirements as may be specified by the Agency.

11. **Prohibition**

A person shall not manufacture, export, advertise, display for sale, use or distribute instant noodles in Nigeria unless it is in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

Part III
Offences and Penalties, Forfeiture after conviction

12. **Offences and Penalties**

(1) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction. In case of -

(a) an individual, to a fine not less than N5,000,000, to imprisonment for a term of five years; and

(b) a body corporate, to a fine less than N20,000,000 or forfeiture of the property or assets of the body corporate.

(2) Where an offence under these Regulations is committed by a body corporate, firm or other association of individuals every: -

(a) director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate.

(b) partner or officer of the firm.

(c) trustee of the body concerned.

(d) person concerned in the management of the affairs of the association; or

(e) person who purports to act in a capacity referred to in paragraphs (a) to (d) of this sub-regulation, is severally liable to be proceeded against and punished for that offence in the same manner as if he had himself committed the offence, unless he proves that the act or omission constituting the offence took place without his knowledge, consent or connivance.

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13. **Forfeiture after conviction**

(1) A person convicted of an offence under these Regulations shall forfeit to the Federal Government:-

(a) any asset or property constituting proceeds derived from or obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of the offence; and

(b) any of the person's property or instruments used in any manner to commit or to facilitate the commission of the offence.

(2) In this section, "proceeds" means any property derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, through the commission of the offence.

Part V
Miscellaneous

14. **Interpretation**

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

Agency means National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control

Air-Dried Instant Noodles means an instant noodle which is precooked and dried using hot air

Fried Instant Noodles means an instant noodle which is dried by frying in edible oil after it has been precooked by steaming.

Instant Noodles means pre-cooked and dehydrated product made from cereal flour, other flours or starch water, salt as the main ingredients, with or without the addition of other optional ingredients.

15. **Citation**

These Regulations may be cited as the NAFDAC Instant Noodles Regulations 2026

MADE at Abuja this ……. day of ……...2026

……..

Dr. Mansur Kabir

Chairman Governing Council

National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)

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First Schedule

Specific Requirements for Instant Noodles

S/N	Parameters	Requirements	
		Fried	**Air-Dried**
1.	Moisture content, (%) (max)	10	12.0
2.	Total Ash (%) (max)	1.5	1.5
3.	Fat Content (max)	20	1.5 (max)
4.	Acid Value (mg KOH/g oil) (max)	2.0	Not Applicable
5.	Cooking Time/ 70g (max)	4min	4min
6.	Protein Content (on dry basis) (N 5.7) (%) (min)	7.0	9.0
7.	Peroxide value (mequivalent/kg) (max)	10.0	Not Applicable
8.	Salt Content (%) (max)	5%	5%

Second Schedule

Maximum Limits of Metallic Contaminants and Mycotoxin

Metallic Contaminants/Mycotoxin	Limit
(a) Copper (Max)(mg/kg)	10
(b) Lead (Max)(mg/kg)	0.2
(c) Arsenic (max)(mg/kg)	0.1
(d) Cadmium (max)(mg/kg)	0.2
(e) Total Aflatoxin (Max)(ppb)	4.0

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Third Schedule

Maximum Limit Allowable for Microbial Contaminants

Parameters	Maximum Level of Tolerance
Total Viable Count (cfu/g)	10^4
Coliform (cfu/g)	10
Yeast and moulld (cfu/g)	10
E. coli (cfu/g)	Nil
Pathogenic organisms	Nil